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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE

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SECURITY INFORMATION

INFORMATION REPORT

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1. No official government notice or statement has been made as yet concerning a reform of the Bulgarian Identity Card (Karta za Samolichnost). However, the reform was expected by Sofia inhabitants.

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2. According to rumors in Sofia the Identity Card reform should take place sometime during 1952. At the time of the actual reform it is believed that all Bulgarian nationals holding Identity Cards will be forced to exchange them for new "Passport-type Identification Booklets." These will have been prepared beforehand by the various City and Village People's Councils throughout Bulgaria and will be issued upon presentation of the old cards. Each City and Village People's Council will easily be able to fill out the new booklets using the voluminous personal history and political reliability reports they have on file for each citizen.

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3. It is rumored that the new Identification Booklets will be issued in three different categories, each having a different color. All Bulgarian nationals will be placed in one of these three categories and will be subject to the rules and regulations governing such categories. Booklets in these three categories will be as follows:

- a. First Category Booklets, to be issued to Communist Party members in good standing and to all other persons considered to be completely reliable to the present Bulgarian regime; individuals possessing such booklets will be allowed to travel freely throughout Bulgaria; these booklets will, however, have pages similar to visa blanks in regular passports, on which a stamp must be placed prior to each departure from place of residence, upon arrival at destination, on departure from here and at return to place of residence; control of these booklets and of the travel of those holding them, will probably be made through a central "Passport Control Office" in each city and village;

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- b. Second Category Booklets, to be issued to non-Communist Party members and to individuals who, though "not considered reliable," are at the same time not considered to be sufficiently anti-Communist, or anti-regime to be dangerous; all individuals possessing such booklets will be allowed to travel freely anywhere within a 30 kilometer radius of their place of residence; however, in order to make such trips, holders of Second Category Booklets will also be obliged to go through the same "visa" procedures outlined in paragraph "a" above; holders of these booklets will be able to travel elsewhere in Bulgaria upon application for a special permit from the local Militia office; this permit would be something like an Otkrit List, the document currently used for restricted travel;
- c. Third Category Booklets, to be issued to all individuals considered to be anti-Communist, opposing the current Bulgarian regime or dangerous to it, such as former internees, former forced labor camp inmates, discharged Army officers, and all those sentenced by the People's courts; all individuals possessing such booklets will be allowed to travel only in the immediate area of their place of residence; however, they may apply for special travel permits from the local Militia office.

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